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NSAM file

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

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11 September 1968  
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MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Decontrol and Downgrading of Satellite Photography

- REFERENCES:
- a. Memorandum to Members of the NSAM 156 Committee, subject: Draft Report on Disarmament Aspects of Satellite Reconnaissance Policy, dated 9 September 1968
  - b. USIB-D-41.12/28 (COMOR-D-7/44-5) (*see 2.4 file*)  
23 May, 1967, Limited Distribution

1. The NSAM 156 Committee plans to consider a draft report, reference a above, which proposes that "the fact that the United States conducts reconnaissance satellite operations" be downgraded "from its present classification of TOP SECRET-TALENT/KEYHOLE to UNCLASSIFIED." In view of the existing policy of USIB with regard to such matters I feel that the DCI must have the benefit of the views of the Board before his representative on the NSAM 156 Committee can act at their meeting scheduled for 1430 on 16 September.

2. As a related matter, I also recommend reconsideration of the report prepared last year, reference b above, by COMOR on decontrol and downgrading of satellite photography.

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3. The Chairman has agreed to inclusion of this subject on the agenda for the Friday, 13 September, meeting.

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Rufus Taylor  
Vice Admiral, U. S. Navy  
CIA Member, USIB

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